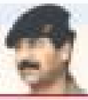
Entertainment Filipino's National Geographic docu to be shown worldwide

Business / B1 Lehman Brothers to buy P10B in idle E-PCIB assets

World / A10 Saddam made more than $21B from oil-for-food program



Across / A17 Another Ilocos Norte mayor shot dead

Tamang Bagsik / A18 Wala nang krisis, ani GMA. Tamang desisyon o mali?

Korina out of 'TV Patrol'; Davila, Failon, Babao in

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Wednesday, November 17, 2004 • 36 pages | vol. 19 | no. 343

Kalibo broadcaster dies in the arms of young son

Strikers dispersed at Luisita; 7 dead

Cory brother says ralliers are not part of work force

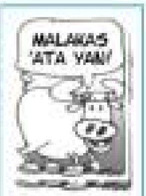
HACIENDA LUISITA, Tarlac City—In a dispersal reminiscent of a bloody Mendiola rally in 1987, at least seven people died when the police and military dismantled barricades set up by workers of a sugar mill owned by the family of former President Corazon Aquino.



Angara: Gov't seems to have lost its way



Garcia posts bail, fights freeze order



Oops, Corpus still up for promotion

He legitimized Iraq war but is more popular than Bush

ANALYSIS



Bush names Rice to replace Powell

PNR: Rolling on tracks to perdition

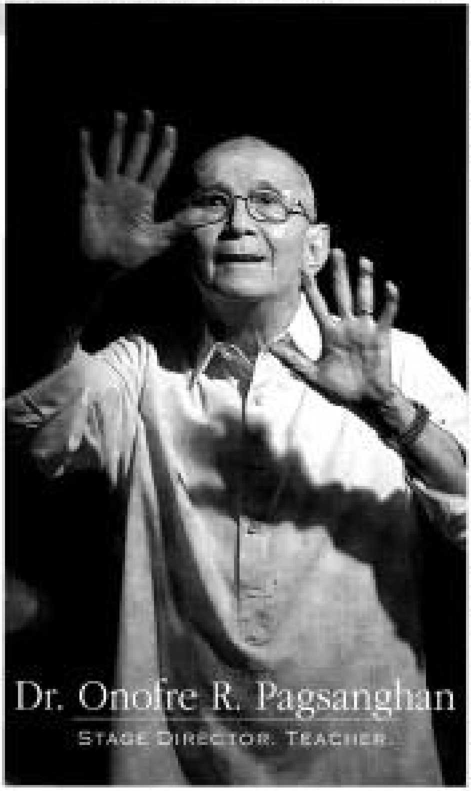
SPECIAL REPORT

Second FRONTPAGE

Senators want higher 'sin' taxes

THE MANY FACES OF THE TEACHER

Loving and Attaining Excellence



Local cigarette firms back DOF 'sin' tax formula

New RP task bad news for Pinoy hostages

Post-Arafat Palestine vows to back RP bid in OIC



CONDOLENCES. Vice President Noli de Castro presents his credentials as Special Envoy of President Macapagal-Arroyo to Palestine Authority President Rawhi Fattouh, and expressed the "deep sympathies of the Filipino people and the government for the loss of a great freedom fighter and a father of a nation." Ambassador Antonio C. Modena, Philippine envoy to the State of Israel (left) assists the Vice President.

RAMALLAH—The Palestinian Authority will support the Philippines' bid for observer status in the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC).

Palestinian Authority President Rawhi Fattouh made the announcement to Vice President Noli de Castro on Friday during the Filipino official's visit in this city as the special envoy of President Macapagal-Arroyo to the burial of the late Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

Arafat died Thursday at a Paris hospital and was buried here Friday before sundown.

De Castro told Fattouh that the "...Filipino people and the Philippine [illegible] in deep sympathy with the Palestinian people for the loss of a great freedom fighter and father of a nation."

"Because of this sincere gesture of the Filipino people, we know that the Philippines is a true friend and we will support your aspirations in the Arab world," Fattouh replied.

Philippine Ambassador to Israel Antonio C. Modena then asked if the Palestinian Authority's support included the Philippine bid to the OIC. President Fattouh and PA Deputy Foreign Minister Abdullah Abdullah answered in unison: "Yes, of course."

Earlier, De Castro was met by Israeli officials at the Ben Gurion airport and provided with a police escort up to the crossing point to Ramallah despite the trip being considered a private visit by Israel.

At Ramallah, the Vice President was met by Abdullah and provided with a bulletproof car and security convoy for the [illegible] trip to this city.

On arrival, De Castro was accorded military honors as he laid flowers at Arafat's tomb.

The Vice President was then escorted to Arafat's residence where he met the members of the Palestinian Authority Cabinet and the Palestinian National Council (unicameral congress).

With De Castro and Modena were Philippine Ambassador to Jordan Eugenio Dizon, Consul General in Tel Aviv [illegible], and Christopher David and Carlos [illegible], protocol and security officers, respectively at the Philippine Embassy in Tel Aviv.

Colonel's assets frozen

By Philip C. Tubeza

THE COURT of Appeals yesterday issued a freeze order against the assets of an Army colonel and his immediate family who were accused of amassing up to P50 million worth of unexplained wealth.

In a 12-page resolution, the tribunal's 7th Division granted the petition of the Anti-Money Laundering Council to freeze for 20 days the 13 dollar and peso accounts of Lt. Col. George A. Rabusa, his wife Debbie, and their daughters Diane and [illegible].

Rabusa, who has been suspended, was the budget division chief of embattled Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia when the two-star general was the comptroller of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. Garcia, suspended without pay and restricted to his quarters, is also facing investigation over allegations of unexplained wealth. (See related story on Page 1)

"We find that probable cause exists that an unlawful activity and/or money laundering offense is about to be, is being or has been committed and that the account or any monetary instrument or property subject thereof sought to be frozen is related to said unlawful activity and/or money laundering offense," said the resolution penned by Justice [illegible].

The court froze the Rabusas' 13 accounts at the Security Bank, one at the Land Bank of the Philippines, two at the Bank of the Philippine Islands, and one at the Armed Forces of the Philippines Savings and Loan Association Inc.

In just one bank account, the colonel's wife allegedly deposited more than P13 million this year.

The freeze order also covered Diane and [illegible] insurance accounts at the Philippine American Life and General Insurance Co. A total of [illegible] worth of premiums were paid in the name of Rabusa's two daughters on Feb. 13, 2004.

The court noted that some of the accounts were jointly held by Rabusa and his two daughters "despite the fact that the latter have no known sources of income and are still studying at the Colegio de San Agustin in Makati."

The appellate court also ordered the Land Transportation Office to prevent the sale of the Rabusas' four registered vehicles—two Toyota Corollas, a Hyundai Starex and a Honda Civic.

It also directed the Securities and Exchange Commission and the corporate secretary of the [illegible] to prevent the sale of around P1 million worth of [illegible] shares owned by Rabusa's wife.

The AMLC on Nov. 10 asked the tribunal to freeze the Rabusas' bank assets, noting that they had already withdrawn P23 million last month.

"The AMLC's database of Covered Transaction Reports shows that respondents have been withdrawing large amounts of deposits from their bank accounts," the AMLC said.

Another long weekend

THERE will be another long weekend next week after Malacañang declared Nov. 29 as a non-working holiday throughout the country.

"Whereas in order to spur domestic tourism and enable our countrymen to avail of the benefits of a longer weekend, Nov. 29, 2004, Monday, may instead be declared as a non-working holiday this year, provided that all activities and celebrations in observance of Bonifacio Day shall remain to be observed on Nov. 30, 2004, Tuesday," according to Executive Order [illegible] issued by Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita.

Malacañang has implemented holiday economics to promote domestic tourism.

ENVOY'S PLEDGE

KL renews commitment to peace in South

Foreign policy meet set

PNR: Rolling on tracks to perdition

CRACKDOWN ON DODGERS

Tax raps filed vs Dante Tan, Chingkoe

By Philip C. Tubeza

Court junks Nur bid to junk raps

Philip C. Tubeza

Loi to take stand for Erap, son

By Armand Nocum

EZ2 SUERTRES SIX DIGIT

METRO

6/42 Luzon/Vis-Min

Noontime rob foiled at DAR

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

MMDA offers traffic fines to LGUs

By Margaux C. Ortiz

No more delayed salaries

By Luige A. del Puerto



PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

Working outside territory

Parañaque closes 17 videoke bars

By Nancy C. Carvajal

MetroBriefs

Metro's best marts

Furniture Festival

He legitimized Iraq war but is more popular







Inspiration for blacks



Bush names Rice to replace Powell



Resignation letter

Nudged out

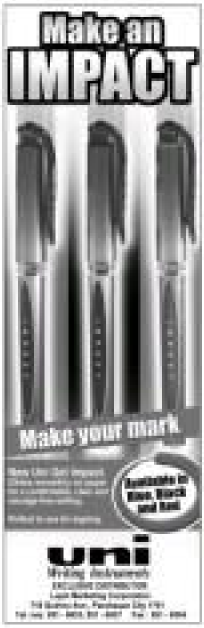
4 more quitting

Homeland Security, too

Ex-rebel soldier joins court martial

[illegible]







The WORLD

Saddam made over $21B from UN program



ABBAS

Abbas endorsed to replace Arafat

After Falluja, US troops move to retake Mosul



Shooting of wounded Iraqi probed



EXCAVATION FIND

Arms embargo imposed on I. Coast

Europe launches first mission to the moon

Indon quake toll hits 25

JAKARTA—The death toll from a powerful earthquake and aftershocks in Indonesia hit 25 Tuesday with fears it could rise even higher, an official said, as a relief team trekked to remote villages to offer help.

An 11-month-old baby girl on Tuesday morning became the latest to die following the tremors on Alor island near East Timor, said Alberth Ouwboly of the government relief center in the island's main town of Kalabahi.

The main quake on Friday measured 6 on the Richter scale. However, both the girl and a 15-year-old boy killed Monday night, died as a result of aftershocks, Ouwboly said.

He said the death toll could continue increasing because the aftershocks, though weaker, are continuing. Alor, with population of 169,000, was shaken Tuesday morning by an aftershock measuring 4.6 on the Richter scale, he said.

Emergency officials have not yet been able to reach some remote villages on the rugged island. A relief team left on foot Tuesday for a one or two-day trek to assess the situation in several villages where hundreds of people lived, Ouwboly said.

"When the earthquake hit, the interior villagers fled to the hills. We don't know if any of those refugees died or were injured," he said.

Ouwboly said at the weekend the entire population of Northeast Alor district, about 8,000 residents, was believed to have been left homeless by the quake, which destroyed every public and private building there. *AFP*

Addict Mobile trips Toyota Otis

Mesina, Oreta key Ateneo's first back-to-back wins; Welcoat whips Air Phils.



[illegible]

By [illegible]

ADDICT Mobile-Ateneo held Toyota Otis-Letran scoreless in the final five minutes to hammer out a [illegible] victory yesterday for their first back-to-back wins in the PBL Open Championship at the Letran College Gym.

[illegible]

Arcilla-Mora, Korean pair barge into PCA q'finals



Tigers take on Barakos today



Huskers underdogs vs M. Lhuillier

INQUIRER

OPINION

Retail politics

EDITORIAL

[illegible]

Hope for Afghanistan

FOREIGN COMMENT

[illegible]



Bad news for abducted Pinoys?



AS I SEE IT

[illegible]

Elegy



THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

[illegible]

Fate of hostages out of RP hands

ANALYSIS



Amando Doronila

Emotions for sale

PINOY KASI



Michael L. Tan

Trappings

Reality or fantasy?

Remembering 1904

'Cabaret' is our world

AT LARGE



Rina Jimenez-David

Caring for the dead

LOOKING BACK



Ambeth R. Ocampo

Streamline procedure for issuance of GSIS eCard

LETTERS

Little step but great witness for the Lord

COA's guilt

Tanong ng Bayan

InqBox Question of the Week

Do you think President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo is addressing the fiscal crisis with effective solutions? Why or why not?

Text your answers to 2307 (Globe) or 253 (Smart).

Across the NATION

Another Ilocos mayor assassinated



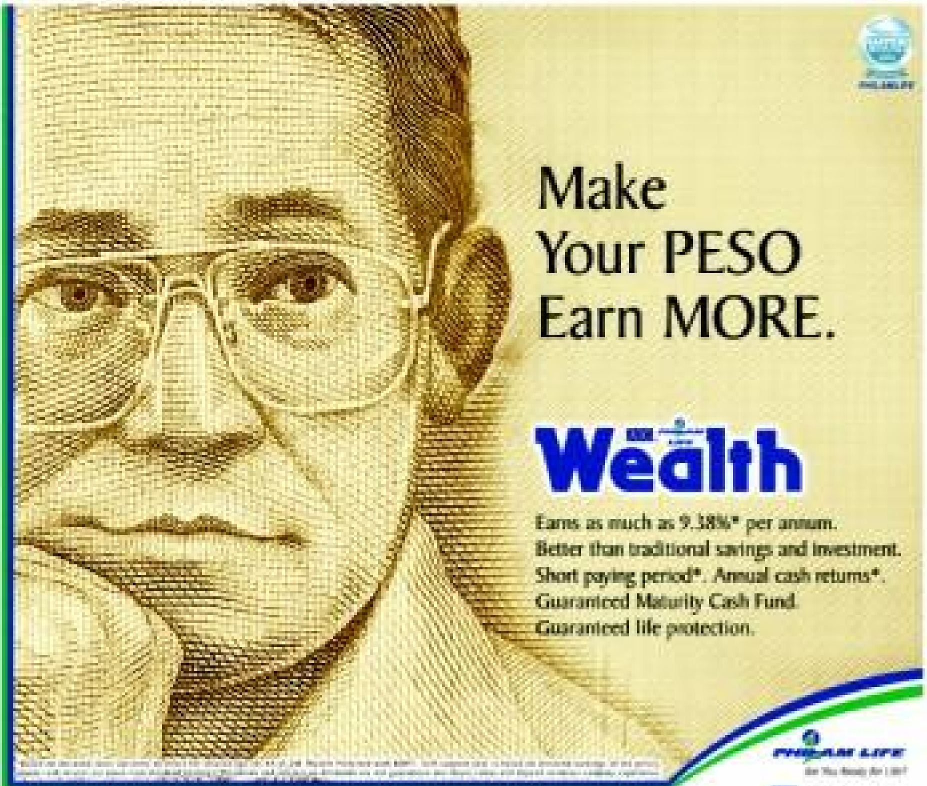
BOAT RIDE

Comelec junks poll protest against Mabalacat mayor

S. Cotabato mayors back mining firm

Mayors seek lower equipment rental

Cebu warden sacked over drugs



INQUIRER Northern Luzon

Luisita workers find sugar bitter pill

THERE is not the proverbial spoonful of sugar that helps one swallow medicine. For the thousands of workers and their families inside the sprawling Hacienda Luisita in Tarlac City sugar has become a bitter pill.



POLICEMEN confront striking workers belonging to the Central Azucarera de Tarlac Labor Union and the United Luisita Workers Union at Hacienda Luisita's Gate 1.

Double deadlock

Bargaining

Thousands stranded as 'Unding' slams Bicol

KINGDOM OF A HIGHER WORLD

A Letter Of Apology To The Public

By Rev. Sharon E. Valencia, Associate Pastor, Bread of Life Ministries (For Higher World Team)

A PUBLIC APOLOGY TO THE READERS

Strikers dispersed at Hacienda Luisita; 7 dead

Tear gas, water cannons

Higher wages

Not hacienda worker

Noynoy defends dispersal

Illegal strike

Strike justified

Molotov bombs

Angara: Cooperate with gov't that seems to have lost its way

Framework of cooperation

Gov't of national unity

Unity talks based on principle

Oops, Corpus still up for promotion at appointments commish

Garcia posts bail, fights freeze order

BIR readies tax evasion raps vs Garcia

P24,000 bail

'Not guilty'

Kalibo broadcaster dies in the arms of young son

Fatal infection

'Stop the slaughter'

'Fire in his belly'

Memories of a widow

Gene Boyd's cousin

Korina out of 'TV Patrol' . . .

Stature

No longer No. 1

BUSINESS

Editor: Paul D. Marcelo

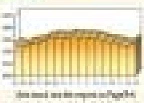
Lehman to buy P10B in idle E-PCIB assets

Currencies



Stock Market

Shares close 2.25% higher



By Doris C. Dumlao

EQUITABLE PCI Bank has reached a deal to sell P10.5 billion worth of idle assets to US investment bank Lehman Brothers Inc. using the Special Purpose Vehicle framework.

[illegible]

Oct. BOP posts deficit

By Doris C. Dumlao

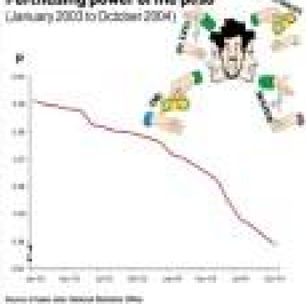
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INQUIRER MONITOR

Figures that matter in our nation's life

Purchasing power of the peso

(January 2003 to October 2004)



The crisis is not over

MR. BEARBULL

Ron Nathan









DISCLOSURES

Tanduay profit up 49%

Oct. BOP posts deficit

[illegible]

New Treasury head named

Bearbull

Jollibee profit taking

COCKTALES

Victor C. Agustin

JOLLIBEE chair/president Tony Tan Caktiong, for still unclear reasons, has been steadily whittling down his personal shareholdings in the country's No. 1 fast-food chain.

From end-2000 shareholdings equivalent to 2.52 percent, Tan reported that his personal shareholdings in Jollibee Foods Corp. had now been reduced to 1.79 percent.

Just this Nov. 5, Tan sold 130,000 JFC shares at P31 a share, locking in this year's highest price so far for the fast-food stock.

Along with Tan, Honeyworth Corp., whose chair/president happens to be his brother-in-law, Antonio Chua Poe Eng, also unloaded an identical 130,000 JFC shares, also at P31 per, also on the same day.

Before the Nov. 5 sale, Tan reported owning 17,587,203 JFC shares as of end September, considerably way below the 25,435,254 shares he had as of end-2000.

Still, that bloc is worth, at yesterday's closing of P30, over P525 million. And that does not include Tan's other shareholdings in related family corporations that own JFC and JFC subsidiaries/affiliates.

Forbes earlier this year guesstimated that the 54-year-old Tan, who founded Jollibee in 1978 along with his brothers, is now worth $270 million net, or about P1.52 billion.

Homeless Depot

THE MC Home Depot in Ortigas has now been shuttered, following the cancellation by the Presidential Commission on Good Government of its controversial Erap-era sublease it had obtained from the original lessee.

Officially, the sign says the complex is up for "general maintenance," but, according to the grapevine, MC Home Depot will be transferring by next year to the Ortigases' new Frontera complex further down Ortigas Avenue by the corner of C-5.

According to eyewitnesses, the main MC Home Depot gate was barricaded with two container vans and welded shut yesterday, thanks to police muscle.

If you believe the market grapevine, one Nards Umale, who owns the second-hand "Automobile" dealership beside MC Home Depot, has requested police assistance to effect the closure order after successfully negotiating with the PCGG in taking over the MC Home Depot space.

Incidentally, the other half of the PCGG property had also been leased, this time by the GMA appointees, directly to a similar US-warehouse style store, Ortigas Home Depot, but whose owners are entirely different from its out-of-luck neighbor.

Mall season

THE SM Group last week inaugurated its Batangas mall. Today, Robinsons will open its Pioneer mall at the corner of EDSA and Pioneer, barely a month after opening the flagship department store at the Filinvest mall in Alabang.

On Friday, Cost U Less will open for business a US-warehouse style of supermarket shopping in Libis, designed to compete with the San Diego, California-based chain PriceSmart.

And despite workers still hammering away, the Araneta Center has partially opened a section of its Gateway mall, just so it could live up to the announced schedule for completion, which was, if we remember correctly, last month.

Heard through the grapevine

THE Supreme Court has stopped the management of the controversy-ridden Baguio Country Club from holding last Friday's annual stockholders meeting.

(Email: cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com or cocktales_pdi@hotmail.com)

BIR fears it may not meet '05 revenue goal

By Michelle V. Remo

THE BUREAU of Internal Revenue has expressed fears that it may not be able to attain its 2005 tax collection target of P537 billion because the revenue-enhancement measures, which the Arroyo administration is pushing, are still pending in Congress.

He said that the P537-billion target for next year, which is 12 percent higher than the P477 billion it is required to collect this year, will only be achieved if most of the revenue measures are passed before January 2005.

The eight revenue measures are estimated to yield an additional P80 billion in annual revenue. These are: the increase in alcohol, cigarette and tobacco (ACT) taxes, performance-based lateral attrition for revenue-collection agencies, tax amnesty, rationalization of fiscal incentives, increase in the value-added tax rate, simplified net income tax, franchise tax on telecommunication and broadcasting companies, increase in petroleum taxes.

Of the measures, however, only the ACT taxes and the lateral attrition have been progressing in Congress. The ACT bill has recently been passed in the Lower House and is now being deliberated in the Senate, while the lateral attrition bill is set to be passed by the Lower House.

BIR Commissioner Guillermo Parayno Jr. said that should the two bills be made into law before the end of this year, the revenue agency is likely to collect only P510 billion next year. He said the P537-billion target that the Arroyo administration's economic team required the bureau to collect next year already took into account the revenue to be generated by most, if not all, of the eight measures.

He said the passage of all the measures would be impossible to accomplish this year, considering that there are only one-and-a-half months left before the year ends. Even Congress has admitted that it could only pass two to three measures this year.

Parayno therefore suggested that the government come up with alternative sources of tax revenue to still help the BIR achieve the P537-billion target for next year.

"If we will not be able to look for a replacement, we may not reach the target," Parayno yesterday told reporters during a press briefing.

For this year, Parayno said the BIR has already collected about P390 billion in the first 10 months. This means it still needs to collect over P80 billion more to attain its P477-billion full-year target.

Parayno said that the P390 billion collection for the January-to-October period was already 10.7 percent higher than its collection during the same period last year. However, it was still 1.5 percent short of its 10-month target for this year.

PSE reverses losses

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

THE PHILIPPINE Stock Exchange yesterday reported it had reversed its losses in the first nine months to P32.54 million from a loss of P317,134 posted in the same period last year.

Operating revenues for nine months grew 29.4 percent.

The improvement in the third quarter was attributed to the re-imposition of transaction fees amounting to P12.4 million for the period, and higher subscriptions to Maktrade, its electronic trading for the current year of P7.34 million.

Data feed connections were higher by P4.67 million due to the increase in number of data vendors from 13 to 15.

Operating expenses for the third quarter rose 12.3 percent to P130.58 million due to increase in costs of trading technology, other computer and trading related expenses, among others.

New Treasury ...

From page B4

ment of East West Banking Corp. from March 1995 to June 2001. Earlier, Lasala worked for Equitable-PCI Bank, where she handled various positions, including first vice president for treasury and consultant for treasury.

About half of her 22 years in banking was spent with the former Central Bank of the Philippines, where she was among the first batch of central bank traders trained to manage the country's international reserves. She worked for the old central bank from 1980 to 1989.

₱359.9B more in power investments needed

By Abigail L. Ho

RP seen to forge air deal with Nepal

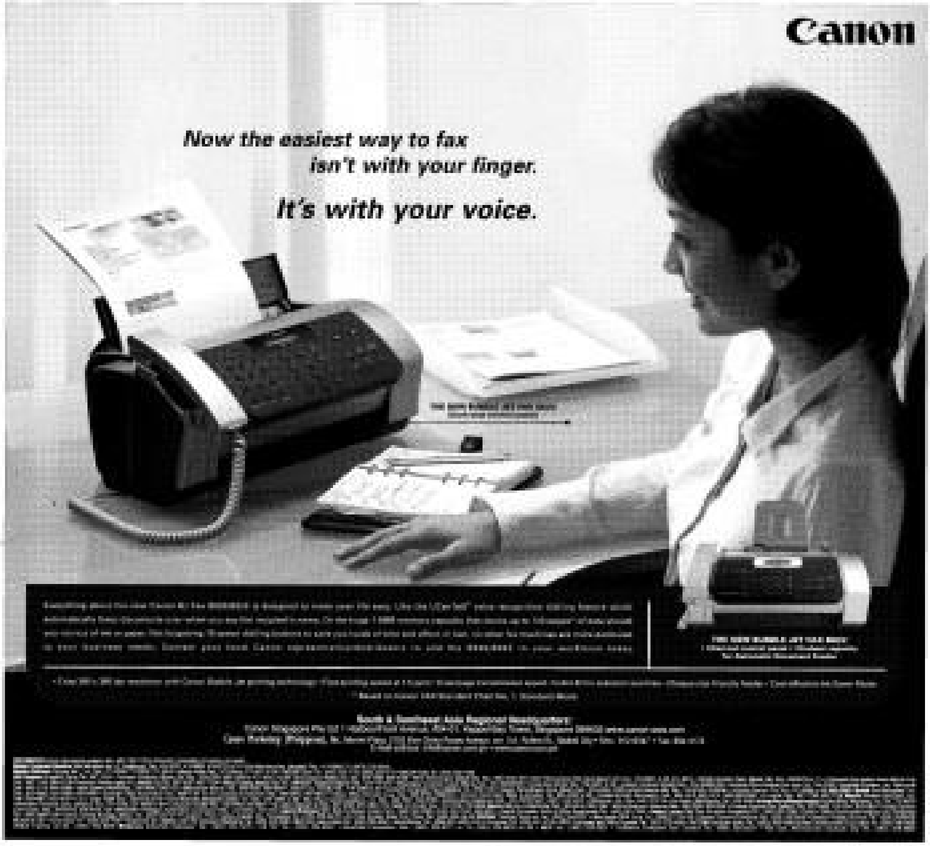




Local firms oppose tariff hike on imported steel

Carageenan prices to go up 10% in '05





Benpres plans to sell part of stake in cable companies

By Clarissa S. Batino

Gov't tariff plan seen to push fuel prices up

By Abigail L. Ho

German bank helps ease burden of schoolchildren

By Christine A. Gaylican

Corporate Citizen







MAJORITY LURES

Gimme (Top) 5 ... and a little bit more (Part 2)

Because you asked for it, here's another dose. We flexed our shopping muscles again and this week, we feature bestsellers in the beauty arena along with a smattering of other top five lists. (If you want to see your brand's top five featured in our pages, e-mail us at thisisourtoplive@yahoo.com)
We also have a fashion shoot that's so sweet it would make your tooth ache, a feature on incredible Pinoy animator Gini Cruz Santos and interactive treats that could win you a shopping spree, a digital camera, lots of cash and the chance to see your work published in our pages. Enjoy!

Food, food, food



BreadTalk

[illegible]













Leonidas

[illegible]









Shu Uemura

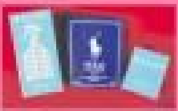




The Body Shop

Beauty in a row

L'Oréal PCI



L'Oréal





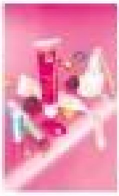
Beauty Bar



Lush







Lancôme





L'Oréal Feria 3D Color



PCX





Maybelline



Garnier Nutrisse

Fashion



Aura Athletica

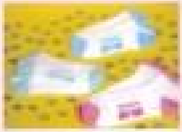
1. Groove Pant in black by Lululemon, P4,850
2. Whisper Fusion black by Lululemon, P2,[illegible]
3. [illegible] by Lululemon, P4,[illegible]
4. Women's [illegible] by Lululemon, P2,[illegible]
5. [illegible] by [illegible] Lifestyle apparel, P3,[illegible]

Flowers



Flower Farm Corp.

1. Chrysanthemum
2. [illegible]
3. [illegible]
4. [illegible]
5. [illegible]









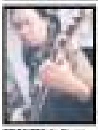


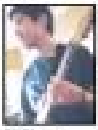
Penshoppe

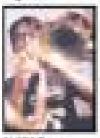
1. Penshoppe [illegible] body wash and body scrub in [illegible] and [illegible], P[illegible]
2. [illegible], P[illegible]
3. [illegible] (P[illegible])
4. [illegible]
5. Penshoppe [illegible] body spray [illegible] in [illegible] and [illegible], P[illegible]

'Sago kayo riyan!'











Going indie

'Kalamar' invasion

No girl pangs here

Man for–and with–others



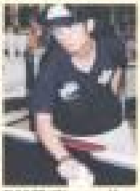
21-year-old Michael Jay Francia joins the long list of selfless individuals working for the Jesuit Volunteers program





Afternoon habit

Hail to the King of the Table





LIFESTYLE



An 'incredible' Pinay animator

Pixar's Gini Cruz Santos is proud of her Filipino roots and her work on some of the best computer-animated movies today



"THE NICE thing about Pixar is, they encourage us to work on the characters that interest us," says Santos.



ABOVE from "The Incredibles." Santos has also worked on other groundbreaking Pixar movies like "A Bug's Life," "Toy Story 2" and "Finding Nemo."

An 'incredible' Pinay animator

Creative stress

Demanding job